

To the Saints of God at Topeka, Kansas

July 29, 2018

David and Goliath, Part 2

1st Sam. 15:35 And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel. 1st Samuel 16:1 *1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill thine horn with oil and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons... 4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? 5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. 6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. 7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. 9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. 10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these. 11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. 12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.*

14 ¶ But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. 15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from

God troubleth thee. 16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well. 17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me. 18 Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him. 19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep. 20 And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. 21 And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer. 22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight. 23 And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

1st Sam. 16 is the first mention we have of David in the Bible. David is an important figure in the Bible, and we learn of him from when he is relatively young until he is an old man. David's story takes up half of the book of First Samuel and all of the book of Second Samuel. In addition, he wrote nearly half of the book of Psalms and is mentioned throughout the Bible and his progeny is included throughout the Old Testament (1st and 2nd Kings and 1st and 2nd Chronicles) and is frequently mentioned in the Gospels in the New Testament. David stands as a type of Christ.

Isa 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Gill: ...This, (covenant) properly speaking, was made with Christ from all eternity, and his people in him; it is made manifest to them at conversion, when they are shown it, and their interest in it; when God makes himself known to them as their covenant God, and Christ as the Mediator of it is revealed to them; when the Lord puts his Spirit into them, and makes them partakers of the grace of it; shows them their interest in the blessings of it, and opens and applies the promises of it unto them; and these are made manifest in the ministration of the Gospel, and in the

administration of ordinances: even "the sure mercies of David"; ***that is, the Messiah, the son of David, and his antitype, whence he is often called by his name,***

You cannot really talk about David and Goliath without talking about David's anointing by Samuel to be King. Both of these stories are back to back. David's coming on the scene and anointing in 1 Sam. 16 is then followed up by David and Goliath which starts at 1 Sam. 17:1.

1st Sam. 15:35 *And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel. 1st Samuel 16:1 1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons...*

Samuel seemed to have affection for Saul in some way, though he could clearly see that God had departed from him. Samuel also probably mourned and lamented for the state of Saul's soul (which didn't seem to matter much to Saul as a man of the flesh), but Samuel knew what Saul's latter end would be. Samuel also mourned for the sad state of Israel under Saul's reign. So, Samuel withdrew from Saul and was not familiar with him anymore. That is what we must do, when we see that the Lord has withdrawn from such people that previously walked with us. The Lord reproves Samuel and gives him a job to do – to anoint David future king of Israel. The Lord as much says – this matter is done – move along – you have work to do and we are moving forward!

Phil 3:13 *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: **but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.***

We must stop looking backwards and behind us...we are not going that way! Looking backwards is not edifying or helpful to us.

Barnes: This one thing I do. Paul had one great aim and purpose of life. He did not attempt to mingle the world and religion, and to gain both. He did not seek to obtain wealth and salvation too... A man will accomplish little who allows his mind to be

distracted by a multiplicity of objects. A Christian will accomplish nothing who has not a single great aim and purpose of soul. That purpose should be to secure the prize, and to renounce everything that would be in the way to its attainment. Let us, then, so live that we may be able to say, that there is one great object which we always have in view, and that we mean to avoid everything which would interfere with that.

Gill: [We must not look back toward] earthly and worldly things, which believers are too apt to have respect to, to look back upon, and hanker after, as the Israelites did after the fleshpots in Egypt, #Ex 16:3; though these were forgotten by the apostle, so as not anxiously to care for them, and seek after them, to set his affections on them, or trust in them: ...and having put his hand to the plough, he did not look back, nor desist, but went on in his laborious way, not thinking of what he had done and gone through, nor discouraged at what was before him; ... nor did he sit down easy and satisfied with what he had attained unto...

Gill: Reaching forth unto those things which are before; to perfection of knowledge, holiness, and happiness, which were before him, and he as yet had not attained unto; but was desirous of, and pursued after with great vehemence and eagerness; the metaphor is taken from runners in a race, who did not stop to look behind them, and see what way they have run, and how far they are before others, but look and move forwards, and stretch themselves out to the uttermost, and run with all their might and main to the mark before them; and so the apostle did in a spiritual sense.

Barnes: He would keep his eye steadily on the prize, (not turning to the left or to the right) and strain every nerve that he might obtain it. If his attention was diverted for a moment from that, it would hinder his flight, and might be the means of his losing the crown. It was the single object in his view, and he did not allow his mind to be diverted from that by anything — not even by the contemplation of the past. He did not stop to think of the difficulties which he had overcome, or the troubles which he had met, but he thought of what was yet to be accomplished. This does not mean that he would not have regarded a proper contemplation of the past life as useful and profitable for a Christian but that he would not allow any reference to the past to interfere with the one great effort to win the prize... Forward, we see everything to cheer and animate us — the crown of victory, the joys of heaven, the society of the blessed — the Saviour beckoning to us, and encouraging us.

Backward, we see everything to dishearten... Paul often talks about running a race, which the expositors believe is a clear reference to the Olympic Games.

Gen. 19:16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

Interestingly, God tells Samuel: fill thine horn with oil to anoint David. But, when the LORD told Samuel to anoint Saul it was a little different.



1st Samuel 9:27 And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God.

1st Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?



The Lord anoints Saul with a little vial of oil, but he anoints David with a full horn of oil. There is a big difference. The expositors says this denotes the abundance of gifts bestowed on David, and the firmness and duration of his kingdom. You see the same for Solomon.

1 Kings 1:39 And Zadok the priest took an horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet; and all the people said, God save king Solomon.

And, you can't help but think of the woman that anointed Christ with the ointment. Luke 7: 37 *And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, 38 And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and*

anointed them with the ointment. 44 And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. 45 Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. 46 My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. 48 And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

You will recall that when Saul was chosen selected to be King of Israel, it was by God, but it was not God's idea to have a king. His selection of Saul to be King was one of disdain and wrath and not made out of his own good will and pleasure. The selection and anointing of David is just the opposite. It was made out of love.

Luke 1:67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, 68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, 69 And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; 70 As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: 71 That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us.

4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? 5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice...

And Samuel did that which the LORD spake. I left out the part about Samuel saying to the Lord words to the effect of, "now wait a minute, if I go to anoint a new king, Saul will hear about it and kill me – so I need a cover story." The Lord says "here is your cover story, take a heifer and say you are sacrificing in Bethlehem and invite everyone in the city, then anoint who I tell you to." As a prophet, he might sacrifice when and where God appointed him; And, Samuel does it. Samuel is past looking backwards and he is looking *forward* and doing what the Lord says even though he might die for it. This speaks a lot to the tyranny and outrageous nature of Saul. It is a sad state that a prophet of God would fear that he will be killed by the king, let

alone an unmatched prophet of God like Samuel. Everyone in Israel knew Samuel was a prophet of God. This is very bad.

And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? Samuel did not come to Bethlehem in pomp and ceremony. He came probably alone except for possibly a servant with the heifer. Yet, the people of Bethlehem feared his coming. That is the way it should be. We should fear and show respect to God Almighty when one of his servants comes to town. Where did you get the goofy notion that the prophets of God should be like Billy Graham or Joel Olsteen (*Every Day is Friday*), that God is coming to serve you and that God loves everyone. Where did you get the idea that God is going to make you prosperous and give you a Cadillac and really there is no hell and God is love to all.

And where did you get the idea Jesse Duplantis, prosperity gospel televangelist, that you need a fourth private jet, a \$54 million Falcon 7X with an optional inflight shower that can go anywhere in the world on one stop for gas? He says if Jesus came today he wouldn't ride on a donkey he would be in a private jet preaching all over the world. These preachers of this day come with their collars backward, their hands folded and they talk out of both sides of their mouth hoping to please the crowd, increase membership, and increase donations. It's all about how many young people they have joining their church, what's going on with the youth pastors, what will their vacation Bible school theme be this year, what is going on with the women's groups, etc. These preachers are there for one reason - to meet the needs of the flesh. Period. They are not there to follow after God and hold His standards. Jesus didn't have to ride on the back of a donkey. They had the equivalent of a Falcon 7X back then... a chariot, a fine horse, an opulent coach ... Christ didn't come to indulge the flesh or make a fair show in this flesh.

These people of Bethlehem feared Samuel was coming to them with some judgment of God against them. They wanted to know – is it peaceable, or is all hell going to reign down on us for our sins? That word “trembled” means: to quake, be afraid, be startled, be terrified, be anxiously careful or be in terror. That is what good looks like when a real prophet of God comes calling.

5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called

them to the sacrifice. 6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. 7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

It does not matter how short or tall you are. Being tall does not make you godly, look at Saul he was head and shoulders above any man and he was a man of the flesh. Mr 15:40 *There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less...* This "James the less" (not Zebedee) refers to the fact that James the apostle (that is James and Jude his brother) was a man short in stature, but not short in godliness and the grace of God. This is none other than James, who wrote the book of James and held in esteem for his godly wisdom at the church of Jerusalem. It does not matter what your physical appearance is, whether your physically pretty or not, though this generation is obsessed with it. Again, this is the fleshly view of the matter. The question is: What is the quality of your heart? Pr 31:30 *Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Gill: A well favoured look, a graceful countenance, symmetry and proportion of parts, natural or artificial beauty, are vain and deceitful; oftentimes under them lies an ill-natured, deformed, and depraved mind; nor is the pleasure and satisfaction enjoyed as is promised along with these; and particularly how do they fade {e } and consume away by a fit of illness, and through old age, and at last by death?* Beloved, this does not just apply to women, it applies to men as well.

They say "a fish rots from the head," I say "a man rots from the heart." If your heart is bad, nothing else can be redeemed. Do you fear God (Eccl 12:13)? Are you willing to put the commandments of God before the commandments of men (Mat. 15:19)? Are the commandments of God grievous to you (1 John 5:3)? Are you willing to forsake God, having loved this present world or do you forsake this world having loved Christ (2 Tim 4:10)? Do you deny ungodliness or do you run to it (Titus 2:12)? Do you pursue the lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eye and the pride of life (1 John 2:16)? Do you disdain sobriety and righteousness? Are you willing to purify yourself and be a peculiar people (2 Tim. 4:14)? Are you zealous of good works as defined by God (2 Tim. 4:14)? Are you willing to choose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God or do you want to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season

(Heb 11:25)? Are you willing to forsake the goodness of this life for the goodness of heaven? **We press toward the mark (finish line) for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

Eph 5: 19 *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*

Mt 6:21 *For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Lu 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.*

1Pe 3:4 *But [let it be] the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, [even the ornament] of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.*

Are you willing to war against the flesh or not? Ge 6:5 *And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Ex 7:13 And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said. We don't want to have our heart hardened. Duet 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.*

These are not theoretical questions. Do you submit yourselves willingly and voluntarily to other members of the church in the fear of God? Do you primarily do things that benefit others, benefit the church and God, do things that are sober, righteous and godly or do you primarily do things that benefit you, your ego, your pocketbook, your position, or your stature? You are what you do. You are not fooling anyone. You cannot manipulate, trick or deceive God – he sees your heart and he knows what you do. David was a man after God's own heart (1 Sam 13:14).

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. 9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. 10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

Beloved, all of these were David's brothers. They were from the same gene pool. It is not about the gene pool. "You plant corn, you get corn," but not when it comes to the heart of man.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Jer 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Jer 18:12 And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.

Eccl 11:9 Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment. 10 Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity. 1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down (for dinner) till he come hither.

So, there was a sacrifice and a feast at Jesse's house and David, as it were, was not even invited. He is not deemed valuable enough to be called from the sheep. And, it seems reasonable that Jesse was not a wealthy man or he might have had servants do this job. Some of the expositors suggest that David was not well-liked or his excellent heart valued much by his brethren. You might conclude that, given

the haughty response from Eliab when David objects to Goliath's taunts. Eliab does not, in a kind and nurturing way instruct his youngest brother, but he responds angrily, impulsively and wrongly. David apparently, is the lowest of the low in his father's house. The occupation of a shepherd was not valued much in David's day. It was one of the lowest occupations a person could have. A shepherd is there to make sure the sheep are watered, fed and protected. He might have had to take them to a special pasture to feed, and to a pond or well to drink. He probably would have had to mess with their dung in some way (moving it, spreading it, etc.) He would have tried to care for them and provide basic medical care for them. It probably would have been a stinky and lonely business, but it obviously was a character builder for David. David did it and excelled at it. He didn't think himself better than that lowly occupation, but he obviously aspired for more. Every situation that the Lord puts us, we should excel at, put all of our heart into it and do it heartily as unto the Lord and not as unto men (Col. 3:23). There are lessons to be learned here. It also appears that he did not waste his time. He was not lazy or slothful and we should not be. He obviously used his time wisely becoming an expert with the sling and the harp, and studying the scriptures. David redeemed the time (Col. 4:5)! It is apparent that David was industrious and he took his job seriously. He did not say "Well, it's a lowly, crummy job. I hate these stinky sheep. I am lonely... there is nothing to do here... all of my friends are in town ... I never get to do anything fun." That attitude is not pleasing unto the Lord. 1Ti 6:8 *And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.* Heb 13:5 *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.* You don't hit a moving bulls-eye the size of a golf ball with a sling, sprinting at top speed at probably at 30-40 yards and not have spent a lot of time practicing. You don't become a "cunning player" on the harp, so that you are known far and wide for this skill and not have spent a lot of time practicing. And, you don't write many of the Psalms without a thorough understanding of the scriptures and nature of God. David must have spent a lot of time with whatever scriptures he had. He likely spent much time in prayer, seeking the Lord, as evidenced in his writings, including the beginnings of Psalm 119, written in his youth. David was industrious and godly and a man after God's own heart and that is exactly what each of us should strive to attain for - **pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

He was ruddy, that is “red.” Gill thinks he had a red complexion. He was fair and comely to look upon. It also says he was “goodly” to look upon. The word goodly means: pleasant, agreeable, glad, happy, benign, kind, happy and morally good. He wasn’t sour, mean, difficult, obstinate and the like. We have a duty beloved to be “goodly,” easily intreated, approachable, appropriate, kind and happy in our service to God. David was anointed to be King of Israel in front of his brethren. That must have been a shocking experience for them. It is also somewhat problematic for David. As you recall when Samuel anointed Saul, Samuel made the servant pass on so Saul was by himself. Here, David’s whole family knows and if this gets out it will be disastrous for David, but the LORD has it in hand.

14 ¶ But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. 15 And Saul’s servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. 16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well. 17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me. 18 Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him. 19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.

It is interesting here that David has gotten such a reputation just being a shepherd. He became notable to someone at court for his skill on the harp, but also for his character. **Character matters.** He was known for being valiant, that is having courage, strength, ability, and efficiency. He wasn’t cowardly or timid. He was prudent. Prudent means discerning, discretion, intelligent, discreet, and has

understanding. He was prudent in his talk, conversation, conduct and behavior. He knew how to carry himself, even in a king's court. Again, he was not rash, impulsive, rebellious or as they say a "bull in a china shop." He behaved himself wisely. These are all characteristics that we should attain to. He was also a comely person (fair to look upon, but also favored or likable). The text says he was a man of war, possibly from his encounters with lions and sheep. It is clear here though that he tended the sheep still because Saul says to get him from the sheep – so he is not in the military yet. Some of the expositors say that 1 Samuel 16 and 17 are out of order. That David slew Goliath and went back home to his sheep and then was called forth to serve Saul as reported here in Chapter 16.

It also says that Lord was with him, which is no small matter. We want the Lord, our all in all, to be with us, as that is everything. The Lord dwelt with him, prospered him and David's conduct was such that it was clear that the Lord favored him. This is much like Samuel when all Israel knew God was with him. 1 Sam 3:20 *And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.* The Lord alone establishes His people.

Numbers 27:15 ¶ *And Moses spake unto the LORD, saying, 16 Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, 17 Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd. 18 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; 19 And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. 20 And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.*

19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep. 20 And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. 21 And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer. 22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight. 23 And it came to pass, when the evil

spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

So David became Saul's musician and armourbearer. But, there is an apparent contradiction coming between these verses in 1st Sam 16 and the following verses in 1 Sam 17:54 after David cuts off Goliath's head.

At 1 Sam. 17:54 Saul says this: 55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, whose son is this youth? And Abner said, As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell. 56 And the king said, Enquire thou whose son the stripling is. 57 And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. 58 And Saul said to him, Whose son art thou, thou young man? And David answered, I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

Regarding the contradiction of David playing for Saul earlier and Saul not knowing him when he slew Goliath Matthew Henry says: *Though he had been at court formerly, yet, having been for some time absent (#1Sa 17:15), Saul had forgotten him, being melancholy and mindless, and little thinking that his musician would have spirit enough to be his champion; and therefore, as if he had never seen him before, he asked whose son he was. Abner was a stranger to him, but brought him to Saul (#1Sa 17:57), and he gave a modest account of himself, #1Sa 17:58. And now he was introduced to the court with much greater advantages than before, in which he owned God's hand performing all things for him.*

I love you all. Amen.